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S E C R E T AMMAN 001657

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SUBJECT: SCENESETTER FOR THE VISIT TO JORDAN OF LIEUTENANT  
GENERAL NORTH, COMMANDER 9TH AIR FORCE AND U.S. CENTRAL  
COMMAND AIR FORCES

REF: AMMAN 8608

Classified By: AMB DAVID HALE FOR REASONS 1.4 (B AND D)

1. (S) EMBASSY AMMAN IS LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT  
ON 8-9 MARCH 2006. JORDAN REMAINS ONE OF OUR STRONGEST  
SUPPORTERS FOR ALL ASPECTS OF REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT.  
YOUR VISIT WILL ALLOW YOU TO REITERATE TO THE JORDANIANS  
OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO OUR JOINT EFFORTS TO COMBAT  
TERRORISM AND MAINTAIN REGIONAL STABILITY.

2. (S) YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS  
PRINCE FEISAL BIN HUSSEIN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE  
CHAIRMAN AND FORMER COMMANDER OF THE ROYAL JORDANIAN  
AIR FORCE (RJAF); MG MU'TAB AL-ZABEN, JORDANIAN ARMED  
FORCES (JAF) VICE CHAIRMAN; AND BG SULEIMAN MUNAIZIL,  
RJAF DEPUTY COMMANDER. RJAF COMMANDER MG AL-BISS IS  
TRAVELING OUTSIDE JORDAN ON THE WEEK OF YOUR VISIT, BUT  
WILL BE HERE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AIR SYMPOSIUM. THE  
EVENING RECEPTION AT THE DATT'S RESIDENCE WILL HAVE  
SEVERAL SENIOR RJAF PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE, AS WELL  
AS MOST OF THE USAF PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO AMMAN.

- (S) UNFORTUNATELY DURING THIS TRIP, CHAIRMAN OF THE  
JAF GEN KHALID SARAYREH WILL NOT BE IN JORDAN. HE IS  
CURRENTLY ON A TOUR OF AFRICAN NATIONS FLYING AN RJAF  
C-130. AMONG THE COUNTRIES HE WILL VISIT ARE CHAD,  
SOUTH AFRICA, AND THE CONGO. WE BELIEVE THE VISITS  
IN AFRICA MAY BE PARTIALLY INTENDED TO SEEK MORE  
CUSTOMERS FOR SERVICES PERFORMED IN JORDAN BY THE RJAF.  
CHAD HAS A C-130 IN DEPOT MAINTENANCE IN AMMAN NOW,  
AND THE RJAF WOULD LIKE TO SOLICIT ADDITIONAL BUSINESS  
OF THIS TYPE.

THE U.S.-JORDANIAN RELATIONSHIP  
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3. (S) ON NOVEMBER 24, THE KING NAMED A NEW PRIME  
MINISTER, DIPLOMAT AND MILITARY VETERAN MAROUF BAKHIT,  
TO SUCCEED THE EIGHT MONTH-OLD GOVERNMENT OF FORMER  
PM ADNAN BADRAN. THIS GOVERNMENT CHANGE WAS PREVIOUSLY  
PLANNED, BUT BRIEFLY DELAYED BY THE NOVEMBER 9 HOTEL  
BOMBINGS. ON DECEMBER 21, PARLIAMENT VOTED CONFIDENCE  
IN BAKHIT'S CABINET BY A COMMANDING MAJORITY VOTE OF  
86-20. THE KING INSTRUCTED THE GOVERNMENT TO PURSUE  
THREE BROAD PRIORITIES: A) TIGHTEN COUNTERTERRORISM  
EFFORTS WHILE PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS; B) ACCELERATE  
POLITICAL REFORMS TO INCLUDE A NEW ELECTION LAW AIMED  
AT CREATING A MORE REPRESENTATIVE PARLIAMENT; AND C)  
ALLEVIATE POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT. THE LATTER GOAL  
IS LIKELY TO ENJOY A HIGH PUBLIC PROFILE FROM THE GOJ

IN COMING DAYS AND WEEKS.

14. (S) THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN SOME OF THE TOP NATIONAL PRIORITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

- (S) JORDAN IS ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT PARTNERS IN THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM. THE JORDANIAN AND U.S. SECURITY SERVICES HAVE EXCELLENT COLLABORATIVE RELATIONS. THIS RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN FURTHER STRENGTHENED IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE SUICIDE BOMBING ATTACKS AT THREE HOTELS IN AMMAN ON 9 NOVEMBER. SOME HERE CALL THE ATTACKS "JORDAN'S 9-11." JORDAN'S POPULATION UNITED BEHIND THE KING'S SEVERE CONDEMNATION OF THE ATTACKS AND HIS INTENT TO STRIKE BACK. PUBLIC OPINION SHIFTED DRAMATICALLY AGAINST UBL AND ZARQAWI, WHO PREVIOUSLY ENJOYED FAVORABLE RATINGS, THOUGH PUBLIC OPINION REMAINS OPPOSED TO US ACTIONS IN IRAQ. THIS MAY GIVE THE GOJ INCREASED LEVERAGE IN GAINING INTERNAL PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR SECURITY MEASURES. SINCE THE BOMBINGS, SECURITY INCREASED DRAMATICALLY AT PUBLIC FACILITIES SUCH AS SHOPPING CENTERS, BANKS, HOTELS, AND GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

- (S) JORDAN PROVIDED CONCRETE LOGISTICAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT IN THE RUN-UP TO OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF), AND CONTINUES TO HOST TRAINING FOR IRAQI POLICE, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS, CENTRAL BANK EXPERTS, AND IRAQI OTHER GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL. JORDAN'S PROXIMITY TO IRAQ, REASONABLE TRAVEL COSTS, AND EXPERIENCED TRAINERS MAKE IT A NATURAL CHOICE FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS CONDUCTED OUTSIDE IRAQ. THE USG INVESTED A GREAT DEAL IN FACILITIES AT A TIME WHEN WE

HAD FEW OPTIONS TO GET TRAINING STARTED RAPIDLY. THEIR CONTINUED USE WILL BE IMPORTANT TO MINIMIZE THE PER-HEAD COST OF THE TRAINING. EXPOSING IRAQI TRAINEES TO AN ARAB MODEL OF POLICING AND SECURITY THAT IS MARKEDLY DIFFERENT FROM THE SADDAMIST STYLE, WILL REINFORCE IN A PRACTICAL WAY A CRITICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IRAQ AND AN ARAB ALLY AND NEIGHBOR. THE KING AND OTHER JORDANIAN LEADERS ARE VERY EAGER FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN FACILITATING THE JORDANIAN-IRAQI RELATIONSHIP. THEY ARE INTERESTED IN PROVIDING ADDITIONAL TRAINING FOR IRAQIS AND IN BRINGING MORE IRAQI LEADERS TO JORDAN TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AND SHOW IRAQIS FIRST HAND HOW MUCH JORDAN IS DOING TO PROMOTE IRAQI SECURITY. THE KING'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE LAST MINUTE AMENDMENTS TO THE IRAQI CONSTITUTION, AND HIS ENCOURAGEMENT TO ALL SECTORS OF IRAQI SOCIETY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IRAQI POLITICAL PROCESS, WERE IMPORTANT VISIBLE STEPS IN JORDAN'S POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR IRAQ.

- (S) KING ABDULLAH AND THE GOJ WORKED SINCE THE END OF OIF TO REESTABLISH TIES WITH THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT AND EMERGING IRAQI INSTITUTIONS. IN THE FIRST VISIT OF A SENIOR ARAB OFFICIAL TO IRAQ SINCE THE FALL OF SADDAM, THEN-JORDANIAN PM ADNAN BADRAN, ACCOMPANIED BY FOUR OTHER CABINET MINISTERS, MET IN BAGHDAD SEPTEMBER 10 WITH IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT ABDEL ABDUL MEHDI AND PRIME MINISTER IBRAHIM JAAFARI. IRAQI INTERIOR MINISTER BAYAN JABR VISITED JORDAN SEPTEMBER 30. ON OCTOBER 27-28, IRAQI PRIME MINISTER IBRAHIM JAAFARI MET WITH KING ABDULLAH AND SENIOR GOJ OFFICIALS IN AMMAN. IN EARLY DECEMBER, JORDAN'S NEW PRIME MINISTER MAROUF BAKHIT CALLED FOR INCREASED COOPERATION WITH IRAQ, INCLUDING THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION TO COMBAT TERRORISM. KING ABDULLAH WAS THE FIRST ARAB HEAD OF STATE TO CONDEMN THE 22 FEBRUARY MOSQUE BOMBING IN SAMARRA.

- (S) JORDAN REMAINS AN IMPORTANT, POSITIVE FACTOR IN THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN EQUATION. BEYOND JORDAN'S OBSERVANCE OF ITS 1994 PEACE TREATY WITH ISRAEL - REGARDED AS A CORNERSTONE OF JORDAN'S NATIONAL SECURITY

STRATEGY -- JORDANIAN SECURITY AND MILITARY SERVICES WORK CLOSELY WITH THEIR ISRAELI COUNTERPARTS, ALTHOUGH THIS RELATIONSHIP STAYS LARGELY OUT OF SIGHT. THE GOJ RECENTLY RENEWED ITS OFFER TO PROVIDE TRAINING IN JORDAN FOR PALESTINIAN SECURITY FORCES.

- (S) JORDAN SHARES OUR CONCERNS ABOUT SYRIA, AND SUPPORTS OUR POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO FOCUS PRESSURE ON SYRIA TO CHANGE ITS BEHAVIOR. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE IS GOJ CONCERN ABOUT STABILITY IN SYRIA, AND ABOUT THE SYRIAN REGIME'S REPEATED MIS-STEPS IN REACTION TO EVENTS.

- (S) JORDAN WAS ONE OF THE ARAB WORLD'S PIONEERS IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REFORM; A GROUP OF ADVISORS APPOINTED BY THE KING HAS FORMULATED A COMPREHENSIVE NEW PROGRAM FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REFORM, THE NATIONAL AGENDA. JORDAN'S PARLIAMENT, DOMINATED BY EAST-BANK TRADITIONALISTS, IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE ITS RESISTANCE TO POLITICAL CHANGE, HOWEVER. THE POWERFUL EAST BANK MINORITY HERE, VIEWS WITH SUSPICION, ANY STEP WHICH MIGHT GIVE UNDER-REPRESENTED JORDANIAN-PALESTINIANS A DOMINANT POLITICAL POSITION.

15. (SBU) THE VERY CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE U.S. AND JORDANIAN GOVERNMENTS IS NOT REFLECTED IN JORDANIAN POPULAR OPINION. AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, ESPECIALLY ON THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE AND ON IRAQ, IS PERCEIVED NEGATIVELY AMONG ORDINARY JORDANIANS AS IT IS IN THE REST OF THE REGION. AFTER ISRAEL'S DISENGAGEMENT FROM GAZA, PUBLIC OPINION TOWARD U.S. POLICY IMPROVED, BUT THE MAJORITY STILL DISAPPROVES.

16. (SBU) THE FY 2005 U.S. BUDGET PROVIDED \$204 MILLION IN FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING (FMF) FOR JORDAN. THE FY 2005 SUPPLEMENTAL PROVIDED \$100 MILLION IN FMF AND \$99 MILLION FOR THE KING ABDULLAH SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTER (KASOTC). IN ADDITION, AT THE END OF JULY 2005, DOD PAID JORDAN \$97 MILLION IN COALITION SUPPORT FUNDS (CSF) TO SETTLE JAF CLAIMS FOR COSTS INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH OIF AND ITS AFTERMATH. THE FY 2005 BUDGET ALSO INCLUDED \$250 MILLION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. THIS WAS ENHANCED

BY A \$100 MILLION SUPPLEMENTAL. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE WAS ROUGHLY SPLIT BETWEEN CASH TRANSFER AND PROJECT ASSISTANCE. THE PROJECT SECTORS RECEIVING THIS ASSISTANCE INCLUDED WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, AND SOCIAL SECTORS - ENCOMPASSING EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE. THE PROGRAMMED FY06 FMF BUDGET IS \$210 MILLION BUT MAY BE DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN RESCISSION. THE 2006 SUPPLEMENTAL IS BEING STAFFED IN OSD NOW AND ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO JORDAN FOR THIS YEAR HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED.

ISSUES THE JORDANIANS MAY RAISE  
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17. (S) DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR JORDANIAN OFFICIALS, SOME OF THE ISSUES BELOW MAY ARISE; YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW ON THESE POINTS IN REPLY.

- (U) U.S. AIR FORCE TRAINING FOR JORDAN - THE JORDANIAN ARMED FORCES CONTINUOUSLY HAS A DIFFICULT TIME IN RECEIVING QUOTAS IN THE U.S. AIR FORCE COURSES IT REQUIRES. AS OF 5 MARCH 2006, IT DID NOT HAVE SEATS IN 45 OF 129 OR 35% OF THE COURSES IT REQUESTED FOR FY06. THIS COMPARES TO ONLY 5% FOR U.S. NAVY COURSES AND 12% FOR U.S. ARMY COURSES. THIS HAS PARTICULARLY IMPACTED THE ROYAL JORDANIAN AIR FORCE, WHICH DEPENDS HEAVILY ON USAF TRAINING TO PROFESSIONALIZE ITS FORCE AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL TRAINING UNAVAILABLE IN JORDAN. AN AREA OF DEEP CONCERN AT PRESENT IS THE LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF SLOTS IN THE FLIGHT SAFETY OFFICER'S COURSE AND THE JET ENGINE MISHAP INVESTIGATOR'S COURSE. AS RJAF

DEVELOPS ITS SAFETY CENTER, THEY ARE COUNTING ON DEVELOPING A CADRE OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN THE U.S. AND THIS LACK OF AVAILABILITY IS SLOWING THEIR EFFORTS. THE LACK OF SLOTS IN AIR FORCE COURSES ALSO MAKES IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR JORDAN TO FULLY UTILIZE ITS ENTIRE IMET BUDGET. BY THE TIME THE AIR FORCE SECURITY ASSISTANCE TEAM (AFSAT) LEARNS FROM THE AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND (AETC) AND INFORMS THE MAP TRAINING OFFICER THAT NO SLOTS ARE AVAILABLE, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO REALLOCATE THE FUNDS.

- (S) CONTINUED RJAF SECURITY CONCERNS - SINCE SUMMER 2005, RJAF LEADERSHIP CONVEYED THEIR CONCERN FOR RESPONSE PLANNING IN THE CASE OF SUICIDE AIRCRAFT ATTACKS IN THE KINGDOM. RJAF AND JAF LEADERSHIP COMMENTS INDICATE THEIR CONCERN CENTERS ON THE THREAT OF A SUICIDE ATTACK FROM A HIJACKED PLANE FLYING INTO POPULATED OR SENSITIVE AREAS OF AMMAN, POSSIBLY WITH TOXIC CHEMICALS ABOARD. THE RJAF REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM THE U.S. AND U.K. TO COUNTER THIS THREAT. RJAF INCREASED ITS AIR DEFENSE ALERT POSTURE LATE AUGUST 2005, WITH MOST OF THIS MISSION ASSIGNED TO THE F-16 SQUADRON. IN FEBRUARY 2006, THE RJAF CONVENED A MEETING WITH THE USAF AIR ATTACH, A BRITISH RAF ADVISOR, THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (CAA) AND THE DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, AND EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT INADEQUATE SURETY OF COORDINATION BETWEEN AIRCRAFT INBOUND TO JORDAN AND JORDANIAN CIVIL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES. MOST OF THE CONCERN WAS DIRECTED AT U.S. AND U.K. MILITARY AND GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT COMING FROM IRAQ, ESPECIALLY LOW-FLYING HELICOPTERS. THE USAF AIR ATTACH TO JORDAN ASSESSED THE BULK OF THE COORDINATION PROBLEMS RESULT FROM INADEQUATE JORDANIAN INTERAGENCY AND INTER-SERVICE COORDINATION PROCEDURES, AS WELL AS POOR, OR NO, TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE BETWEEN CIVIL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES, AND BETWEEN IRAQ AND JORDAN. HOWEVER, THE RJAF STRESSED THAT UNDER CURRENT THREAT CONDITIONS, THEY CAN NO LONGER TOLERATE UNIDENTIFIED FLIGHTS APPROACHING AMMAN. MAP AMMAN AND RAO HAVE ALERTED UNITS THAT REGULARLY FLY INTO JORDAN ABOUT THIS HEIGHTENED CONCERN.

- (S) THERE ARE ALSO ROYAL JORDANIAN AIR FORCE CONCERNS ABOUT MARKA AIRPORT'S PHYSICAL SECURITY, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE NOVEMBER HOTEL SUICIDE BOMBINGS. RJAF LEADERS HAVE INTERPRETED A DIRECT THREAT FROM AMZ TO THEIR BASES DUE TO THEIR SUPPORT TO U.S. OPERATIONS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, AND SINCE AMZ WARNED JORDANIANS TO STAY AWAY FROM MILITARY FACILITIES. THESE THREAT CONCERNS MAY ALSO BE CONTRIBUTING TO JAF PRESSURE TO MOVE MOST FIXED WING OPERATIONS FROM MARKA TO QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN THE NEAR TERM. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THIS MOVE IS IMMINENT, BUT THE COMPLEX LOGISTICAL PROBLEM OF MOVING ALL OF THE SUPPORT FACILITIES

AND OPERATIONS FOR FIXED WING ACTIVITY FROM MARKA LEADS US TO BELIEVE THIS WILL BE SEVERAL YEARS DOWN THE ROAD. THERE HAS BEEN A LONG-TERM GOAL TO RELOCATE ALL CARGO AND VIP FLIGHTS TO QUEEN ALIA AIRPORT. RJAF HELICOPTER OPERATIONS WOULD REMAIN AT MARKA AIRPORT. WE ARE STILL COLLECTING SPACE REQUIREMENTS AND TIMELINES FOR THE RELOCATION AS IT PERTAINS TO OUR OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, A FORCED MOVE IN THE NEAR TERM MAY REQUIRE FUNDING TO CONSTRUCT FACILITIES IN SUPPORT OF OUR AIR OPERATIONS CURRENTLY BEING RUN OUT OF MARKA.

- (S) THE RJAF HAS BEEN CONTRIBUTING MORE TO PUBLIC SECURITY, BASE SECURITY, AND BORDER SECURITY RECENTLY. IN DECEMBER AH-1COBRAS WERE DEPLOYED TO ALL RJAF BASES AND DIRECTED TO FLY OCCASIONAL PATROLS AND BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO SECURITY BREECHES. NVG FLIGHT TIME REMAINS LOW - A COUPLE HOURS A WEEK. INITIALLY SOME BASES HAD TWO COBRAS, BUT THEY HAVE ONE PER BASE NOW, ROTATING THE CREWS WEEKLY. THE RJAF HUEYS FLEW SEVERAL DAYS OF RESCUE MISSIONS OUT OF AND AROUND AL-JAFR AND AQABA DURING THE EARLY FEBRUARY FLOODS THAT KILLED NINE JORDANIANS. THE HUEY CREWS RESCUED APPROXIMATELY TWENTY INJURED OR STRANDED PERSONS. IN MID FEBRUARY THE RJAF BEGAN FLYING NIGHTLY AIR SURVEILLANCE PATROLS, WITH UH-1 HUEYS AND POSSIBLY EC-635'S, OVER MARKA AND QUEEN ALIA AIRPORTS DUE TO

TERRORIST ATTACK WARNINGS. THEY WERE DIRECTED TO FLY EVERY NIGHT FOR SEVEN NIGHTS OVER/AROUND MARKA. THEY REPORTEDLY CARRIED ARMED RJAF SECURITY TROOPS ON BOARD. THE RJAF AGREED TO BUY FOUR MORE EC-635S AT THE DUBAI AIR SHOW FROM EUROCOPTER (WITH AN OPTION FOR THREE MORE), DUE TO ARRIVE LATER THIS YEAR. SEVERAL SOURCES INDICATE THESE WILL GO TO THE PUBLIC SECURITY DIRECTORATE (PSD) WING, TO REPLACE THEIR AGING BO-105S. THESE BO-105S IN TURN MAY GO TO THE BORDER/CUSTOMS FORCES.

- (S) YOU MAY HEAR FROM THE RJAF REGARDING DOD FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SUSTAINMENT OF THEIR TWO TPS 77 AND ONE FPS 117 RADAR SYSTEMS. THE CURRENT WARRANTY ON THE HISTORICALLY TROUBLED SYSTEMS IS DUE TO EXPIRE THIS SUMMER (MAY 06). THE RJAF HAS NOT PLANNED FOR SUSTAINMENT FUNDING OF THESE SYSTEMS AND HAS PREVIOUSLY ASKED FOR DOD MISSION ESSENTIAL AND OR PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE (PSI) FUNDS TO SUSTAIN THE RADARS. DSCA AND SAF/IA HAVE FORMALLY CONCLUDED THE RJAF REQUEST IS OUT OF SCOPE FOR DOD MISSION ESSENTIAL AND PSI FUNDING. EMBASSY AMMAN HAS NOTIFIED RJAF TO FUND THE REQUIRED \$2M AND TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF REQUEST FOR SUSTAINMENT OF THE RADAR SYSTEMS THROUGH JUNE 2007.

- (S) MG AL-BISS, THE RJAF CDR, TRAVELED TO ITALY IN EARLY FEBRUARY AT THE INVITATION OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT. A MAJOR PURPOSE OF THE TRIP WAS TO EVALUATE THE AUGUSTA A-139 MEDIUM LIFT HELICOPTER, WHICH THE KING SAW IN ACTION WITH THE ITALIAN ARMED FORCES HERE DURING AN EXERCISE IN LATE SUMMER. APPARENTLY THE KING HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST AND INDICATED THE RJAF SHOULD CONSIDER PURCHASING THEM. HOWEVER, THE RJAF DOES NOT DEEM IT VERY SUITABLE FOR THEIR MISSION NEEDS, AND ITS ACQUISITION WOULD RUN COUNTER TO RJAF DECISIONS TO CONSOLIDATE AIRCRAFT TYPES FOR COMMONALITY. MOREOVER, JORDAN HAS LIMITED NATIONAL FUNDS FOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AND CANNOT USE U.S. GRANT ASSISTANCE TO PURCHASE NON-U.S. EQUIPMENT.

- (S) IN MID-LATE DECEMBER, AL-BISS TRAVELED TO YEMEN AT THE INVITATION OF THE YEMENI AIR FORCE COMMANDER. HE WAS THERE PARTLY ON A RELATION-BUILDING VISIT, BUT ALSO POSSIBLY SOUGHT MORE BUSINESS PROSPECTS FOR THE RJAF.

(C) RELATED TO SAFETY - THE RJAF PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL MAJOR BILATERAL SAFETY EVENTS RECENTLY, WITH A JANUARY TRIP TO COLORADO, A FEBRUARY TRIP TO UK, AND TO THE COALITION FLYING SAFETY CONFERENCE AT THE END OF FEBRUARY. THE ANNUAL RJAF SAFETY DAY WAS SCHEDULED FOR 09 MARCH. THEY PLAN TO STAND UP THE NEW SAFETY DIRECTORATE, WITH 40 PERSONNEL LED BY A BRIGADIER GENERAL, PROBABLY IN JUNE. THIS WILL SIGNIFICANTLY RAISE THE AMOUNT OF MANPOWER DEVOTED TO SAFETY POLICY, PROGRAMS, AND ISSUES. RIGHT NOW THERE ARE REALISTICALLY JUST TWO PERSONS.

- (S/NF) COUNTER-TERRORISM - THE U.S. AND JORDAN CONTINUE EXTENSIVE COOPERATION ON CT AND INTELLIGENCE ISSUES. THE KING ABDULLAH SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTER (KASOTC) IS THE CENTERPIECE OF THAT COOPERATION. KING ABDULLAH'S CONCEPT FOR DEVELOPING HIS SPECIAL OPERATIONS

FORCES TO COUNTER THE TERRORIST THREAT GAINED MOMENTUM WITH THE FY 2005 SPECIAL APPROPRIATION-\$99 MILLION IN SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE WAS DESIGNATED TO ESTABLISH THE KASOTC. THE GOJ IS MOVING FORWARD WITH PLANS TO MAKE THE KASOTC A STATE OF THE ART FACILITY FOR SOF TRAINING FOR JORDAN, THE U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES. ADMINISTRATIVE DELAYS IN ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATE GROUND RULES WITHIN THIS UNIQUE PROJECT, INTERAGENCY STAFFING ISSUES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR INFORMING CONGRESS RESULTED IN CONCERNS ON BOTH SIDES REGARDING THE ABILITY TO COMMIT THE \$99M BEFORE THE MONEY EXPIRES IN SEPTEMBER 2006. THE PROJECT WILL BE MANAGED BY THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (ACOE) UNDER THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES SYSTEM. \$7.1M HAS BEEN ALLOCATED TO COMMENCE INITIAL DESIGN AND CONTRACTING ACTIVITIES. THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING \$91M IS

CONTINGENT ON THE APPROVAL OF THE POLITICAL-MILITARY AGREEMENT BY BOTH SIDES. THIS AGREEMENT CONCERNS THE USE OF THE FACILITY, RELEASE OF TACTICS, TECHNIQUES AND PROCEDURES, AND OTHER SENSITIVE ISSUES. THE AGREEMENT WAS PASSED TO THE JORDANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY IN THE FORM OF A DIPLOMATIC NOTE IN EARLY MARCH. SOCCENT, THE JORDANIAN PROJECT MANAGER, ACOE, AND CENTCOM CONTINUE TO FINALIZE PLANS FOR CONSTRUCTION. THE MAIN FACILITY OF THE KASOTC WILL BE LOCATED IN YAJOUZ, NEAR JORDANIAN SOCOM JUST OUTSIDE AMMAN. A COMPLEMENTARY FACILITY FOCUSED ON MARITIME SOF MISSION TRAINING WILL BE LOCATED IN AQABA. ACOE HAS AN AMBITIOUS PLAN WHICH SHOULD ALLOW FOR GROUND-BREAKING LATE THIS SUMMER WITH FULL OBLIGATION OF FUNDS ON TIME. FUNDING FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE, AS WELL AS JAF DESIRES FOR ADDITIONS TO THE FACILITY, REMAIN AS ISSUES IN THIS PROJECT. JORDAN WILL LIKELY SEEK ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE FACILITY AND FOR ITS OPERATIONS FROM THE USG.

- (U) SECDEF DONALD RUMSFELD VISITED JORDAN ON 23 DECEMBER 2005. THE SECRETARY SAW THE JORDANIAN COUNTER TERRORISM (CT) TRAINING CENTER, WHERE HE SPOKE WITH U.S. AND JORDANIAN TRAINERS AND IRAQI CT STUDENTS. HE WAS PRESENTED AN OVERVIEW OF THE FUTURE SITE OF THE KASOTC.

- (S) SHORTLY AFTER THE SUICIDE BOMBINGS OF HOTELS IN NOVEMBER, THE GOJ SUBMITTED AN EMERGENCY COUNTER-TERRORISM ASSISTANCE REQUEST TO THE U.S. THIS REQUEST WAS PREFACED WITH JORDAN'S POSITION AS A CONTINUING PROMINENT TARGET FOR AL-QAEDA AND ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THIS THREAT. THE REQUEST SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR \$338M USD IN "EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID AND ASSISTANCE," IN ADDITION TO THAT ALREADY BUDGETED, TO ADDRESS "THE MOST IMMEDIATE AND CRITICAL NEEDS" OF JORDAN. THE DETAILED REQUEST WAS FOR SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT, TRAINING, AND OTHER ASSISTANCE RELATED TO DETERRENCE, DETECTION, FORCE PROTECTION, CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE, INVESTIGATIVE AND FORENSICS ASSETS, AND DRILLS AND EXERCISES. EMBASSY AMMAN SUBSEQUENTLY ASSESSED THAT \$38M OF THE REQUEST REPRESENTS COUNTER-TERRORIST ASSISTANCE WHICH IS TRULY URGENT. MUCH OF THE REMAINING REQUEST, WHILE NECESSARY IN THE EMBASSY'S VIEW, NEEDS TO BE DEALT WITH OVER THE COMING FIVE YEARS. AN INITIAL PRE-ASSESSMENT TEAM IS CURRENTLY IN COUNTRY FOR CONSULTATIONS ON A LOGICAL ROAD AHEAD TO ADDRESS JORDANIAN REQUIREMENTS.

- (S) TRAINING FOR IRAQIS - THE FUTURE OF THE U.S.-BUILT JORDAN INTERNATIONAL POLICE TRAINING CENTER (JIPTC) FACILITY IS OF GREAT INTEREST TO THE GOJ. OUR BILATERAL AGREEMENT STIPULATES THE FACILITY WOULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE GOJ WHEN THE TRAINING OF NEW IRAQI POLICE FORCES ENDS IN FEBRUARY 2007. WITHIN THE USG, THERE ARE ONGOING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE CONTINUATION OF U.S.-JORDANIAN COOPERATION ON TRAINING, BEYOND THE END OF THE IRAQ MISSION, OF THIRD COUNTRY POLICE PERSONNEL AT A REGIONALIZED JIPTC. RECENTLY, JORDAN'S AMBASSADOR TO NATO OFFERED TO HOST A NATO SECURITY TRAINING CENTER FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUE MEMBERS AT JIPTC; WHILE SOME ELEMENTS OF NATO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THIS IDEA, NATO HAS NOT IDENTIFIED A SOURCE OF FUNDING.

- (S) LISTED BELOW ARE SOME OF THE MORE NOTABLE TRAINING PROGRAMS, EITHER ONGOING OR CONDUCTED RECENTLY WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE TRAINING:

- JORDAN INTERNATIONAL POLICE TRAINING CENTER (MORE THAN 32,000 IRAQI POLICE CADETS TRAINED TO DATE)
- NEW IRAQI ARMY TRAINING (1,978 TRAINED BY JORDANIAN

ARMY)

- IRAQI COUNTER-TERRORISM FORCE (ICTF) TRAINING (JORDANIAN SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND)
- TRAINING FOR IRAQI AIR FORCE PILOTS AND CREWS OF THE IRAQI AIR CORPS (JORDANIAN AIR FORCE)
- ADVANCED MILITARY STUDIES FOR IRAQI OFFICERS



(JORDANIAN NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE AND NATIONAL COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE)

- TRAINING FOR IRAQI AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS AND AVIATION INSPECTORS (JORDANIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY)

- TRAINING ON BANK INSPECTIONS AND OPEN-MARKET OPERATIONS (CENTRAL BANK OF JORDAN)

- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING PROVIDED TO SEVERAL IRAQI MINISTRIES (E.G., HEALTH, EDUCATION, PLANNING)

- FOOD INSPECTION TRAINING (JORDANIAN FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION)

- TRAINING OF IRAQI NURSES/STAFF NURSES (JORDANIAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH)

- CENSUS TRAINING (DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS)

- (U) IN ADDITION TO THESE GOJ-AFFILIATED PROGRAMS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS ALSO CONDUCTING CONSIDERABLE TRAINING IN JORDAN.

- (S/NF) MILITARY INTELLIGENCE TRAINING FOR IRAQIS - GEN SARAIH, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JORDANIAN JOINT STAFF OFFERED, ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS WITH VISITING VIPS, TO TRAIN INDIVIDUAL IRAQI INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS OR HELP THEM ESTABLISH THEIR OWN DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE (DMI). NEITHER THE IRAQI MINISTRY OF DEFENSE NOR MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR HAS RESPONDED. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE NEW IRAQI GOVERNMENT PREFERS ANY NEW TRAINING INITIATIVES TO TAKE PLACE INSIDE IRAQ.

- (S) IN ADDITION TO THE CREATION OF THE KASOTC, JORDANIAN EFFORTS TO TRAIN IRAQI CT FORCES HAVE BEEN PROFOUND. A TOTAL OF 532 STUDENTS GRADUATED FROM SEVEN CLASSES. AFTER THE FINAL GRADUATION IN FEBRUARY 2006, SOCCENT IS CLOSING DOWN ITS PART OF THIS PROGRAM. WHILE JORDAN WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE TO OFFER THIS TRAINING, FUTURE TARGET AUDIENCES ARE NOT CURRENTLY CLEAR.

- (S) BORDERS - BORDER CONTROL REMAINS A HIGH LEVEL CONCERN FOR THE GOJ. JORDAN IS IMPLEMENTING A BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM WITH U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE. JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES ARE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE POROUSNESS OF THEIR BORDERS WITH SYRIA AND SAUDI ARABIA. CONCERNS WITH THE SYRIAN BORDER CONTINUE TO SLOW JORDAN'S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1997 OTTAWA TREATY BANNING LANDMINES. UNTIL AN IMPROVED SENSOR AND COMMUNICATIONS PACKAGE IS FULLY FUNDED AND DEPLOYED, THE GOJ WILL NEED TO MAINTAIN INCREASED NUMBERS OF NATIONAL FORCES ALONG ITS BORDERS. THE COMPLEX AND AMBITIOUS C4ISR PROGRAM WILL GREATLY INCREASE INTEROPERABILITY WITH THE COALITION AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF JORDANIAN OPERATIONS FROM THE NATIONAL TO THE UNIT LEVEL. AS THE JAF COMES TO TERMS WITH DIFFICULTIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE MANAGEMENT, FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MASSIVE C4ISR PROJECT, THE INTEGRATION OF THE BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM SHOULD ELIMINATE REDUNDANCY AND MUTUALLY BENEFIT BOTH PROGRAMS. SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS CONTINUE AT THE TREBIL CROSSING POINT ON THE IRAQ BORDER IN TERMS OF MAINTAINING THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC, ILLEGAL ENTRIES, AND CONTROLLING SECURITY. A JORDANIAN MOI OFFICIAL INDICATED THAT WITHOUT USG SUPPORT ON THE IRAQI SIDE OF THE BORDER, THE IRAQIS WOULD HAVE LITTLE CONTROL. THE GOJ CONTINUES TO LOOK FOR BETTER SECURITY MEASURES AT THE BORDER TO PREVENT INFILTRATION BY FOREIGN MILITANTS. THE JAF WILL LIKELY ASK FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THEIR C4ISR INITIATIVE DESPITE RECEIVING AN FMF SUPPLEMENTAL IN 2005 FOR THE C4ISR, TO CONTINUE TO ADDRESS THESE BORDER CONCERNS.

- (S) PEACE KEEPING OPERATIONS - JORDAN POSSESSES ONE OF THE BEST PEACEKEEPING TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST - THE PEACE OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTER (POTC) IN ZARQA. JORDAN TRAINS ITS PEACEKEEPERS PRIOR TO DEPLOYMENT TO ONE OF THE MANY JORDAN-SUPPORTED U.N. PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS, WHICH INCLUDE THE MISSION IN HAITI WHERE JORDAN HAD ONE BATTALION SINCE LATE 2004 AND ADDED A SECOND BATTALION IN SEPTEMBER 2005. IN ADDITION, JORDAN USED THE FACILITY TO TRAIN OVER 800 U.S. SERVICE MEMBERS IN CULTURAL AWARENESS PRIOR TO

THEIR DEPLOYMENT TO IRAQ. THE NEXT ITERATION OF THIS

TRAINING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH AND APRIL AND APPROXIMATELY 250 U.S. SOLDIERS WILL ATTEND THE TRAINING. MOREOVER, JORDAN ALSO TRAINS INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPERS AND U.N. STAFFERS AT THE CENTER. JORDAN WOULD LIKE TO EXPAND THE FACILITY TO CREATE A PEACEKEEPING CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (PKCOE) WHERE THEY COULD TEACH PEACEKEEPING, INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND PEACE ENFORCEMENT IN A REALISTIC ENVIRONMENT. THEY ESTIMATE THE COST OF THIS NEW CENTER WOULD BE JUST OVER \$3M. THERE HAS BEEN NO U.S. FUNDING ALLOCATED TO THIS LARGER PROJECT TO DATE. ARMY CENTRAL COMMAND (ARCENT) HAS BEEN THE KEY U.S. AGENCY SUPPORTING THE POTC, AND RECENTLY APPROVED EXERCISE RELATED CONSTRUCTION WORTH \$500K FOR A DUAL USE FACILITY - EXERCISE AND PEACEKEEPING - THAT THE JORDANIANS ARE VIEWING AS A FIRST STAGE TO THE PKCOE. NEARLY ALL EQUIPMENT IN THE CURRENT POTC MAIN BUILDING WAS PURCHASED WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING CAPABILITY (EIPC) PROGRAM FUNDING. THIS EQUIPMENT WILL BE MOVED TO THE NEW FACILITY, AND ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT WILL ALSO BE PURCHASED WITH EIPC FUNDS.

- (S/NF) DEFENSE INDUSTRIES - JORDAN HAS LONG SOUGHT THE CAPACITY TO SUPPORT ITS OWN DEFENSE EQUIPMENT NEEDS IN ORDER TO ECONOMIZE ON MAINTENANCE, PARTS AND R&D, AND TO DEVELOP INCOME-GENERATING DEFENSE EXPORTS. THIS LONGSTANDING EFFORT HAS NOW BEEN MARRIED TO THE KING ABDULLAH II DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (KADDB). FROM INTERCHANGEABLE BARREL HAND GUNS, TO DESERT ASSAULT VEHICLES, KADDB HAS WORKED TO LIMIT JORDAN'S RELIANCE ON FOREIGN ARMS IMPORTS WHILE SEEKING OTHER, PRIMARILY REGIONAL, CUSTOMERS. MOREOVER, THE REBUILD FACILITY ASSOCIATED WITH KADDB OVERHAULS THE ENTIRE JORDANIAN MECHANIZED FLEET, AND HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME A REGIONAL REBUILD FACILITY. AT LEAST ONE MAJOR U.S. DEFENSE COMPANY HAS BEEN VERY SATISFIED WITH THE APTITUDE, WORK ETHIC AND GENERAL PERFORMANCE OF JORDANIAN MECHANICS AND TECHNICIANS PERFORMING REFURBISHMENT ON U.S. EQUIPMENT IN JORDAN. REPLICATING THIS VERY POSITIVE EXPERIENCE FOR OTHER U.S. DEFENSE REFURBISHMENT NEEDS IN THEATER MERITS CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, COULD PROVIDE THE U.S. MILITARY NEW FLEXIBILITY, AND WOULD BE WARMLY WELCOMED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN AND ITS YOUNG DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENT.

- (S) FIELD HOSPITALS - IN ADDITION TO SUPPORTING COALITION FORCE OPERATIONS IN IRAQ WITH THE CONTINUING DEPLOYMENT OF A FIELD HOSPITAL, A JORDANIAN MILITARY HOSPITAL CONTINUES TO OPERATE IN AFGHANISTAN. JORDAN ALSO OFFERED TO SEND TWO FIELD HOSPITALS AND FORENSICS TEAMS TO THE U.S. IN ORDER TO SUPPORT RECOVERY EFFORTS AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA. THOUGH WASHINGTON EXPRESSED OFFICIAL APPRECIATION FOR THE OFFER, IT WAS DECLINED FOR LEGAL AND TECHNICAL REASONS. JORDAN CONTINUES TO PROVIDE FIELD HOSPITALS OR MEDICAL TEAMS TO VARIOUS UNITED NATIONS MISSIONS INCLUDING IN THE WEST BANK, ERITREA, SIERRA LEONE, IVORY COAST, SUDAN AND LIBERIA. THE GOJ HAS SENT MEDICAL SUPPORT TO PAKISTAN TO INCLUDE A FIELD HOSPITAL IN SUPPORT OF EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY. JORDAN ALSO OFFERED VARIOUS HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES TO PAKISTAN, WHICH WERE DELIVERED USING U.S. MILAIR. SEVERAL COALITION SUPPORT FUNDING REIMBURSEMENTS, INCLUDING MOST OF THE HOSPITAL CLAIMS ARE CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW BY OUSD(C). BECAUSE JAF FINANCES ARE SO TIGHT, THEY ARE ADAMANT IN THEIR CONTINUED ADVOCACY FOR FULL REIMBURSEMENT OF THEIR UNPAID COALITION SUPPORT FUNDING CLAIMS WHICH APPROACH \$200M.

- (S/NF) MILITARY EXERCISES - THE U.S. AND JORDAN CURRENTLY CONDUCT TWELVE BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL EXERCISES EACH YEAR. THIS IS THE MOST ACTIVE EXERCISE SCHEDULE IN THE CENTCOM AOR. GENERAL SARAIH CONTINUES



TO SEEK THE ADDITION OF ANOTHER "MINI BRIGHT STAR" EXERCISE WITH A CT FOCUS. IT IS UNLIKELY THE JORDANIANS COULD ADEQUATELY SUPPORT AN ADDITIONAL EXERCISE. HOWEVER, WE ARE CURRENTLY PLANNING TO FOCUS AUGUST 2006 EARLY VICTOR SOF EXERCISE ON CT, AND THE SOCCENT COMMANDER IS DEVELOPING THE CONCEPT TO CREATE MULTILATERAL FORCE TRACKING ASPECTS OF ONGOING SOF OPERATIONS INTO THE EXERCISE.

- (S) MILITARY COOPERATION - JORDAN-U.S. MILITARY

COOPERATION IS BROAD AND DIVERSE. THE DECISION TO CONTINUE ON-GOING EXERCISES IN JORDAN LAST SUMMER DESPITE THE ROCKET ATTACK IN AQABA WAS HIGHLY APPRECIATED BY THE JORDANIAN MILITARY AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP. THE JAF LEADERSHIP SENT A VERY STRONG SIGNAL IN TERMS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP BY REMAINING IN WASHINGTON TO FINISH THE JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION (JMC) DESPITE THE HOTEL ATTACKS IN AMMAN, WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE INITIAL DAY OF JMC MEETINGS. SENIOR JAF LEADERSHIP ARGUES JORDAN NEEDS SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUNDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION THEY REGARD AS NECESSARY TO ADDRESS OUR FUTURE REQUESTS FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN THE REGION, AS WELL AS FOR INCREASING THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE WAR ON TERRORISM. 2005 GRANT MILITARY ASSISTANCE FUNDS TOTALED APPROXIMATELY ONE HALF BILLION DOLLARS (SEE PARA 6). MAP JORDAN WILL CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PROGRAMS, BUT THIS HIGH LEVEL OF FUNDING IS NOT LIKELY TO MATERIALIZE AGAIN SOON. JORDAN SOUGHT ASSURANCES OF CONTINUED OUT-YEAR FINANCING AT THESE LEVELS DURING THE JMC, AND HABITUALLY DOES SO IN TALKS WITH SENIOR U.S. LEADERSHIP. THE JAF ASKED FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SEVERAL NEW OR EXPANDED PROJECTS AT THE JMC WHICH ARE NOT FUNDED WITHIN THE EXISTING FIVE YEAR PLAN. THESE INCLUDE A \$180M MULTI-YEAR SIMULATIONS PROGRAM, \$101M OF REMAINING UNFUNDED C4ISR, A \$50M CRISIS MANAGEMENT RESPONSE CENTER, ADDITIONAL \$45M FOR BORDER SECURITY, \$55M IN COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS WARFARE EQUIPMENT AND \$25M FOR VARIOUS AIR FORCE UPGRADES. SECRETARY RODMAN ASSURED THE JAF THAT THEY CONTINUE TO

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BE A PRIORITY FOR USG SUPPORT AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE, BUT REINFORCED THE BELIEF THAT THEIR FMF BASE LINE WILL REMAIN AT AROUND \$205M. THE 2006 FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS ACT ALLOCATES \$210M IN FMF, AND \$250M IN ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUNDS FOR JORDAN.

- (S) THE ROYAL JORDANIAN NAVY - THE RJN IS ENGAGED IN BORDER CONTROL AND CONTINUES TO WORK CLOSELY WITH ITS RED SEA NEIGHBORS ISRAEL, EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA, TO COMBAT SMUGGLING AND TO ENFORCE MARITIME LAW IN THE GULF OF AQABA. JORDAN RECENTLY FORMALLY JOINED THE PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE. THE JAF INSTALLED NEW BORDER OBSERVATION SITES WHICH ENHANCE TECHNICAL MEANS TO MONITOR AND SUPPORT THE LANDWARD CONTROL OF JORDAN'S BORDERS IN THE VICINITY OF AQABA. THE SECURITY OF THE PORT HAS BEEN IMPROVED WITH THE ACQUISITION OF SEA FORWARD LOOKING INFRA-RED (FLIR) AND OTHER NIGHT VISION DEVICES. THE JAF IS IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING A COUNTER-SMUGGLING PLAN. THE KING AND JAF REMAIN COMMITTED TO UPGRADING RJN EQUIPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE. THE RECENT DELIVERY OF FMS-PROCURED PATROL BOATS AND ZODIACS, AS WELL AS AN INCREASED AMOUNT OF ALLOCATION FOR THE RJN IN THE FIVE YEAR PLAN, INDICATE THE KING'S SUPPORT FOR THE ROYAL JORDANIAN NAVY. THE KING ALSO COMMITTED NEARLY \$50M TO UPGRADE THE NAVAL BASE AT AQABA. THE BASE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT INCLUDES A PIER CAPABLE OF HANDLING TWO U.S. CRUISER-CLASS WARSHIPS OR ONE U.S. JFK CLASS AIRCRAFT CARRIER. EXERCISE-RELATED CONSTRUCTION (ERC) FUNDS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE BASE, INCLUDING TWO LANDING CRAFT AIR CUSHION (LCAC) RAMPS, A VESSEL BOARD SEARCH AND SEIZURE EXERCISE MOCK UP, AND A WASH RACK FOR VEHICLES. NAVCENT IS ALSO PROJECTING

AN LCAC CONTROL TOWER FOR THE FUTURE TO COMPLETE THE PROJECTS THERE. THESE IMPROVEMENTS WILL SUPPORT U.S. FORCES DEPLOYED TO JORDAN FOR EXERCISE AND CONTINGENCY PURPOSES.

- (U) MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING - JORDAN HAS THE SECOND LARGEST INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING (IMET) PROGRAM IN THE WORLD, RECEIVING \$3.014 MILLION IN 2005. IN FY 2005, JORDAN SENT APPROXIMATELY 300 STUDENTS TO TRAINING IN THE U.S., AND HAD AN ADDITIONAL 110 STUDENTS TRAINED IN JORDAN BY U.S. MOBILE EDUCATION TEAMS. IN ADDITION, IN 2005 IT RECEIVED THE SECOND LARGEST ALLOCATION IN THE WORLD FOR THE COUNTER-TERRORISM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AT \$1.44 MILLION. JORDAN SENT 40-50 STUDENTS TO THE STATES UNDER THIS PROGRAM FOR EACH OF THE LAST THREE YEARS, INCLUDING SIX STUDENTS PER YEAR TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY'S COUNTER- TERRORISM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM. IT IS ALSO AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN NUMEROUS OTHER TRAINING PROGRAMS, TO INCLUDE SEMINARS SPONSORED BY THE NEAR EAST - SOUTH ASIA

(NESA) CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES AND THE GEORGE 1C. MARSHALL CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES.

18. (S) OUR MILITARY-TO-MILITARY RELATIONSHIP AND ACCESS REMAIN EXCELLENT. THE JAF WILL CONTINUE TO LEVERAGE THIS RELATIONSHIP TO GAIN ADDITIONAL RESOURCES. WE FEEL THEIR CURRENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO STRATEGIC REGIONAL GOALS MERIT THE SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE THEY ARE RECEIVING. WE CONTINUE TO ADVISE THE JAF THAT THEIR EXPECTATIONS OF INCREASED MILITARY ASSISTANCE ARE INCONSISTENT WITH U.S. BUDGET REALITIES. ADDITIONALLY, WE ARE FORCING THE JAF TO BE REALISTIC IN BALANCING ITS FIVE YEAR PLAN BY ELIMINATING PREVIOUSLY PLANNED PROJECTS IN ORDER TO FUND DESIRED NEW INITIATIVES. THE USG MUST CONTINUE TO EVALUATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH JORDAN, AND JORDAN'S COMMITMENT TO U.S. REGIONAL AND GLOBAL INITIATIVES. BASED ON THIS CALCULUS, WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THOSE EFFORTS WITH APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS TO OUR LEVEL OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER SUPPORT. THE GOJ IS STANDING SOLIDLY BESIDE THE USG IN ITS REGIONAL EFFORTS. IT HAS BEEN POLITICALLY DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO MAINTAIN THIS SUPPORT, AND JORDAN HAS NOW PAID DEARLY ON ITS OWN SOIL.

19. (S) JORDAN'S LEADERSHIP SINCERELY SUPPORTS U.S. REGIONAL EFFORTS AND THE WAR ON TERRORISM. SENIOR OFFICIALS YOU MEET WILL AFFIRM JORDAN'S COMMITMENT TO OUR ONGOING PARTNERSHIP AND WILL THANK YOU FOR AMERICA'S SUPPORT TO JORDAN.

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